



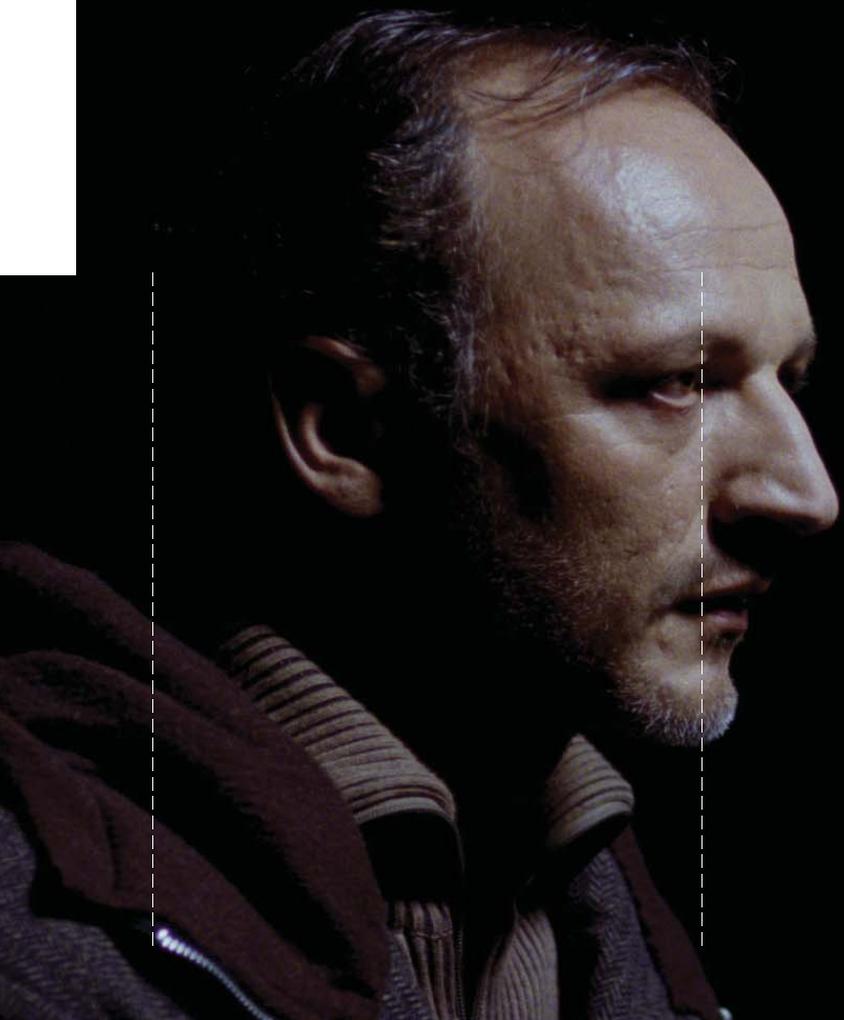


OFFICIAL SELECTION

INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL  
ROTTERDAM

2015

impressions  
— of a  
drowned man





IN CO-PRODUCTION WITH

Fimblades  
Yiannis Chalkiadakis  
Restart Production

WITH THE SUPPORT OF

Cyprus Ministry of Education and  
Culture (Cyprus Cinema Advisory  
Committee)  
&  
Southeastern European Cinema  
Network

2015  
Cyprus | Greece | Slovenia

82 min  
35mm  
1:1.85  
Colour  
DCP  
In Greek

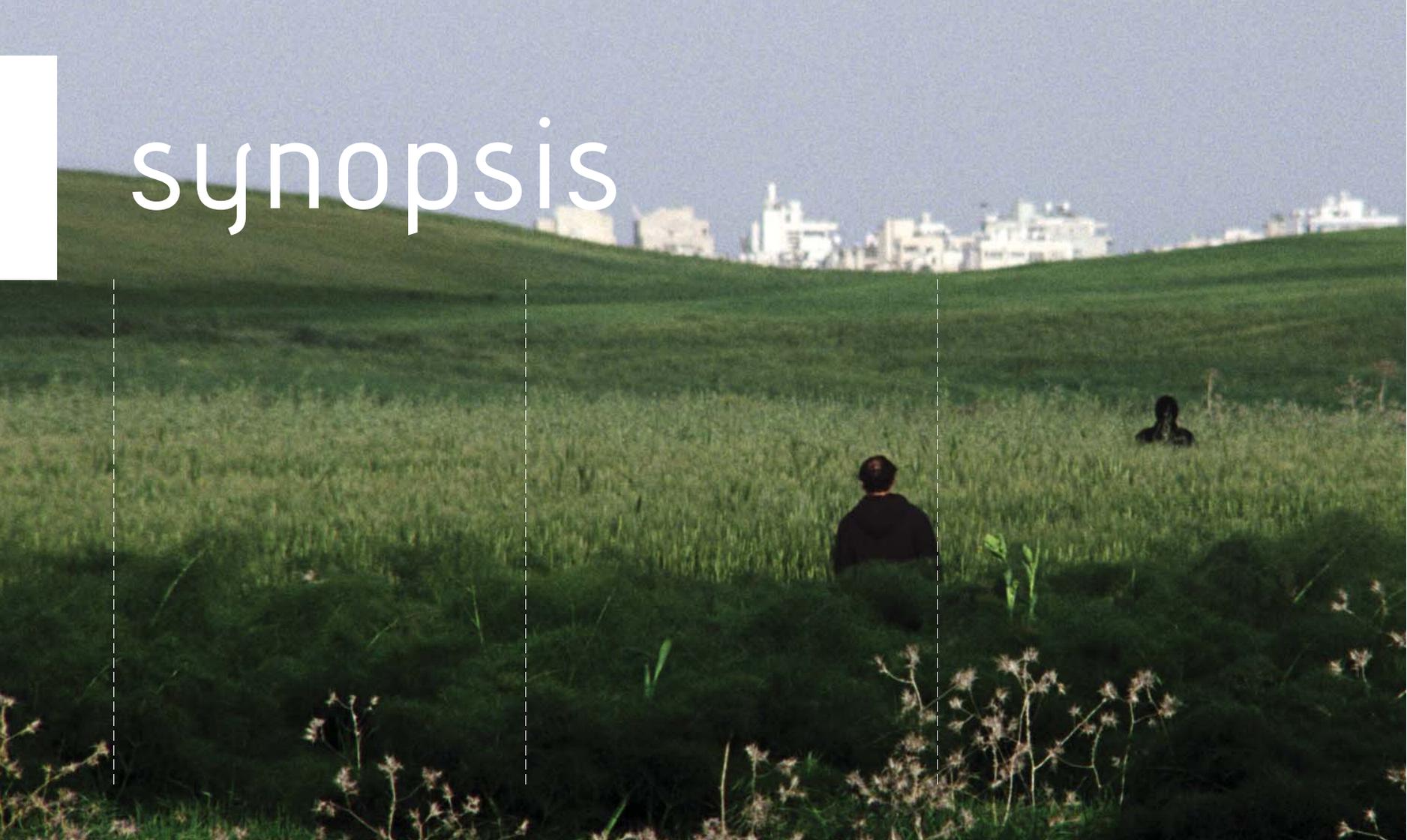
**dryTree Films presents**

A FILM BY

Kyros Papavassiliou

**impressions**  
— of a  
**drowned man**

# synopsis





Totally disconnected from his past and memory, the Passenger tries to define himself, confronted by his pre-determined fate, a fate that he has to re-live upon every anniversary of his death.

The background of the slide is an aerial photograph of a forest, showing a mix of dark green and brownish tones, suggesting a dense canopy with some bare trees or a specific type of vegetation. On the left side, there is a solid white vertical bar. The text "director's note" is centered in the upper half of the image in a white, sans-serif font. Below the text, three vertical dashed white lines extend downwards, creating a structured layout for additional content.

# director's note



### MIRROR

The concept of the film is summed up by an incident that happened to me: I visited Marisha's house (the actress in the film) and there was a mirror on the wall with a carved frame. After a while I passed in front of the mirror but was surprised that I couldn't see myself. What was actually happening was that there was no mirror inside the frame, but just a glass surface, like a window glass. The mirroring was quite faint, and it felt like my self had disappeared.

### REALITIES

The plot is minimal but the condition of the story is complex. It refers to a reality that we don't usually think of. The story might become more familiar only if we suppose that all our social identities are false, and that we are not who we really can be. Since this is a matter that most of us are not accustomed with as a theme in

films, let me just mention this: based on our social roles that we easily undertake, our actions are pre-determined. Therefore the political and social stage stays the same, or becomes even worse. Moreover, we are entrapped in a too-much technological way of life, where we consider everything as a tool for us in order to exploit nature and other people, instead of seeing them poetically as non-instrumental.

And as some of us take the road of defining themselves, they find out - in the middle or in the end - that the notion of the self is a vanity.

Nevertheless, the story that derives from the above statements is not a moral one at all. It is a story that just takes into consideration these conditions.

### NARRATIVES

The film slides through different layers of

reality and constantly migrates between the logical and the illogical. It is not a result of mere surrealism, but of a very structured one.

Dialogue and logic appear only when necessary for the spectator to follow the film's narration. This technique hopefully frees up the spectator's ability for imagination, the ability to make his/her own associations and interpretations.

Regarding the narration, image and sound have quite equal importance as does dialogue and logic. It is as if image and sound take part in the film like the protagonists do. The audience is tempted to follow the image-and-sound's narration.

Meanwhile, from the very start, the film invites the audience itself to take part in it. It invites it to recite the dialogue through its own voice. It invites it to take the seat of the lost identity of the

character. The narrative becomes a pretext, perhaps a pretence or an excuse for the audience to negate its ego. The film attempts to become a mirror for the audience to look at and see no one.

#### EGO

In life, it is necessary for our egos to understand everything. What the egos don't understand, they push aside, neglect, attack. In film, this is not necessary. Not even in life.

#### INTERPRETATIONS

The film took a different form and style during editing. We were devising ways of narrating without any compromise, and with the willingness to use any cinematic element.

We were interpreting every stage we found ourselves at, and every step that we had taken. We were refraining from

knowing where we would end up - we wanted to know that only at the end of the whole process. We were not taking any step or any interpretation of it for granted, nor any way of thought as truthful.

I was so glad when, at the end of editing I asked Yiannis Chalkiadakis - who has worked on many films - how he felt during the whole process and he replied: "It's the first time I didn't know what I was doing!" I was glad because that was true for me as well.



credits



**MAIN CAST**

Thodoris Pentidis (the Passenger)  
Christodoulos Martas (the Actor)  
Marisha Triantafyllidou (Maria)

**DIRECTED BY**

Kyros Papavassiliou

**SCREENPLAY**

Kyros Papavassiliou

**IN COLLABORATION WITH**

Yiorgos Zois, Maria Varnakkidou,  
Philippos Yiannikouris

**EDITED BY**

Yiannis Chalkiadakis

**CINEMATOGRAPHY**

Konstantinos Othonos

**MUSIC**

Nikos Veliotis

**ART DIRECTOR**

Andy Bargilly

**COSTUME DESIGN**

Notis Panagiotou, Konstantina Andreou

**SOUND DESIGN**

Persefoni Miliou

**SOUND MIXING**

Kostas Fylaktides

**MAKE-UP**

Alexandra Myta

**PRODUCED BY**

Kyros Papavassiliou

**CO-PRODUCERS**

Monica Nicolaidou, George Pantzis,  
Yiannis Chalkiadakis, Bojan Mastilovic

**A CO-PRODUCTION BY**

dryTree Films, Filmblades, Yiannis  
Chalkiadakis, Restart Production

**WITH THE SUPPORT OF**

Cyprus Ministry of Education and Culture  
(Cyprus Cinema Advisory Committee)  
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Network

A man with dark, curly hair and a beard is shown in profile, looking to the right. He is wearing a dark, textured jacket. The background is a light, slightly blurred indoor setting. A black square is in the top-left corner. The word "production" is written in white, lowercase letters across the top of the image. Two vertical dashed lines are positioned on either side of the man's head.

production

# Kyros Papavassiliou

DIRECTOR | WRITER | PRODUCER



Kyros Papavassiliou (Cyprus, 1972) is a self-taught director who had previously worked on various positions on the production line, during his 15-year stay in Athens.

“Impressions of a Drowned Man” is his first feature film.

He has written & directed three short films. His most recent short film “In the Name of the Sparrow” was presented in competition at the Cannes Film Festival in 2007 (Selection Officielle, Court Metrage).

He usually works as a freelance director for TV series and as editor for feature films.

He has published a collection of poems and directed a theatre performance.

He studied Philosophy and Musicology in the United States.

## FILMOGRAPHY

Impressions of a drowned man, 2015, Cyprus-Greece-Slovenia, feature.

In the Name of the Sparrow, 2007, Greece-Cyprus, short.

At Kafka’s Trial Room, 2005, Greece-Cyprus, short.

Lament, 2002, Greece-Cyprus, short.

## Production



dryTree Films is the production company founded by Kyros Papavassiliou in order to undertake the production of "Impressions of a drowned man."



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Filmblades is a film production company based in Cyprus specialised in producing and providing comprehensive services for Feature Films, Short Films, Commercials, Documentaries and TV shows.

Filmblades founders, George Pantzis and Monica Nicolaidou have been active professionals in the local film and television industry since 1992. In 2007 they joined forces, founding Filmblades. Since then, Filmblades has produced a large number of feature and short films, among which the multi-awarded feature film "Fish 'n Chips" (2011), and the short film "Styx", which received six interna-

tional awards, including two for Best Producer.

Moreover, Filmblades have acted as co-producers and executive/line producers for "Impressions of a drowned man" and "Beloved Days" (2015) and as executive/line producers for numerous features, such as "The Joy and Sorrow of the Body" (2012), shot in Cyprus and Bulgaria, "Guilt" (2009) and "The Last Homecoming" (2007).



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## restart

Restart Production is a production and post-production company, with strong emphasis on high end post-production.

Its founders were Art directors, special effects supervisors, digital colorists and post-production producers in the large production companies in Slovenia. They have worked on dozens of feature films and hundreds of commercials.

In 2005 they decided to found their own company, based on their skills in production, post-production, compositing, and color grading.

The company focuses on international

co-productions, with 10 completed projects in the last three years. Restart Production is still a small business, due to their policy to employ only highly skilled staff.



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[bm@restart.si](mailto:bm@restart.si)

## Thodoris Pentidis

THE PASSENGER



He was born and raised in a village of northern Greece. He ended up in Athens. From 1996 to 2004 he studied acting and made a livelihood from it. Before and after that, he has been a waiter at a tavern.

From 2010 to 2014 he relocated to many places of the greek province. Meanwhile, he managed to take part in one film and one theatre performance by Kyros Papavassiliou. He recently returned to Athens where he found a job as a waiter.

He likes jogging, reading and watching football games on TV. He has a son with Athina.

## Marisha Triantafyllidou

MARIA



Born in Tashkent. She grew up in Thessaloniki. She lives and works in Athens. She took part in films that participated in various film festivals.

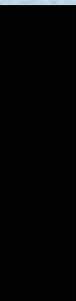
## Christodoulos Martas

THE ACTOR



He graduated from Satiriko Drama School in Cyprus in 2006. He continued his studies at Actors Centre in London. Since then he has worked with many theatre companies in Cyprus including the National Theatre. He took part in numerous TV series as well as in films both feature and short.







## Crew

### YIANNIS CHALKIADIAKIS

Yiannis Chalkiadakis, was born in Crete. He has an MA in film editing from the National Film & Television School in London. He has been an editor in advertising, short and feature films since 1993, and he has been awarded best editor in the Hellenic Film Academy and the Greek Advertising Awards and the Short Film Awards. Most of the films he has edited, have been nominated and awarded in highly acclaimed Film Festivals. He collaborates on a regular basis and is the editor of Yiannis Econimides, Kyros Papavassiliou, Babis Makridis and Yiorgos Zois.

### YIORGOS ZOIS

Yiorgos Zois studied Math and Physics in N.T.U.A. and film direction in Stavrakou Film School, Athens and in U.d.K, Berlin where he was awarded a scholarship. His debut short film "Casus Belli" premiered

at Venice Film Festival in 2010 and participated in the official competition of over 50 international film festivals worldwide, winning several awards. His second short film won the European Film Award in Venice 2012 and was nominated for best short film director in the European Film Academy.

He is currently on the post production of his first feature film called "Stage Fright", the script of which was awarded the development prize of CNC (French Film Centre) at the Cinelink Co-Production Market of Sarajevo IFF 2011, the great award in Torino Film Lab 2012 and was selected in L' Atelier in Cannes Film Festival 2013.

### PHILIPPOS YIANNIKOURIS

Philippos is trained as an architect and has worked on various projects in Cyprus and the UK. He was involved in the writing process of the "Impressions of a Drowned

Man" by ardently expressing his disagreements during conversations on the subject. He is currently pursuing a doctorate that aims to re-imagine the architect's role in the design and building process.

### MARIA VARNAKKIDOU

She was born in London but lived in Cyprus for most of her life. At the age of seventeen she returned to her birth country where she lived for five years, studying theatre directing. She returned to Cyprus and worked in the film "Impressions of a drowned man" as a co-writer, actors' coach and script supervisor. In the next years she taught acting to a wide range of students, and coordinated and directed her first exhibition-performance which was based on the known play 'Vagina Monologues'. She also took part in a theatre performance by Kyros Papavassiliou. She is now preparing a

devised theatre performance with Kyros Papavassiliou based on "truth and lies." Today, she's sitting at the bar where she works as a part-time waitress, writing this bio.

#### **KONSTANTINOS OTHONOS**

He was born in Cyprus in 1972. He studied cinema in Athens. Since then, he struggles as a cinematographer on an amateur basis, working on short and feature films.

#### **NIKOS VELIOTIS**

Late 80s - early 90s: founding member of In "Trance 95", Late 90s - early 00s: turned to the experimental field, exploring sound mainly through the cello (which he destroyed during the "cello powder" performance in 2009), Late 00s - early 10s: founding member of "Mohammad."

"...euphoric music, no chemistry guaranteed..." [L' Alsace] / "...Having achieved acoustic enlightenment, Veliotis just sits

there making the same glorious noise for 20 minutes..." [The Wire] / "Veliotis is the Greek emperor of the restrained cello" [Sound Projector] / "...a cross-pollination of Phill Niblock, Glenn Branca and Iannis Xenakis occurring during the Chernobyl disaster." [Touching Extremes]

[www.cellopowder.com](http://www.cellopowder.com)  
[www.nikosveliotis.com](http://www.nikosveliotis.com)

#### **ANDY BARGILLY**

Born in Famagusta, Cyprus. Here studied Stage and Costume Design at DAMU Prague.

He was the Director of the Cyprus Theatre Organisation (State Theatre) for 13 years, co-founder and first Artistic Director of SKALA Theatre in Larnaca, Cyprus, and Artistic Director of the major events for the 50th anniversary of the Republic of Cyprus in 2010.

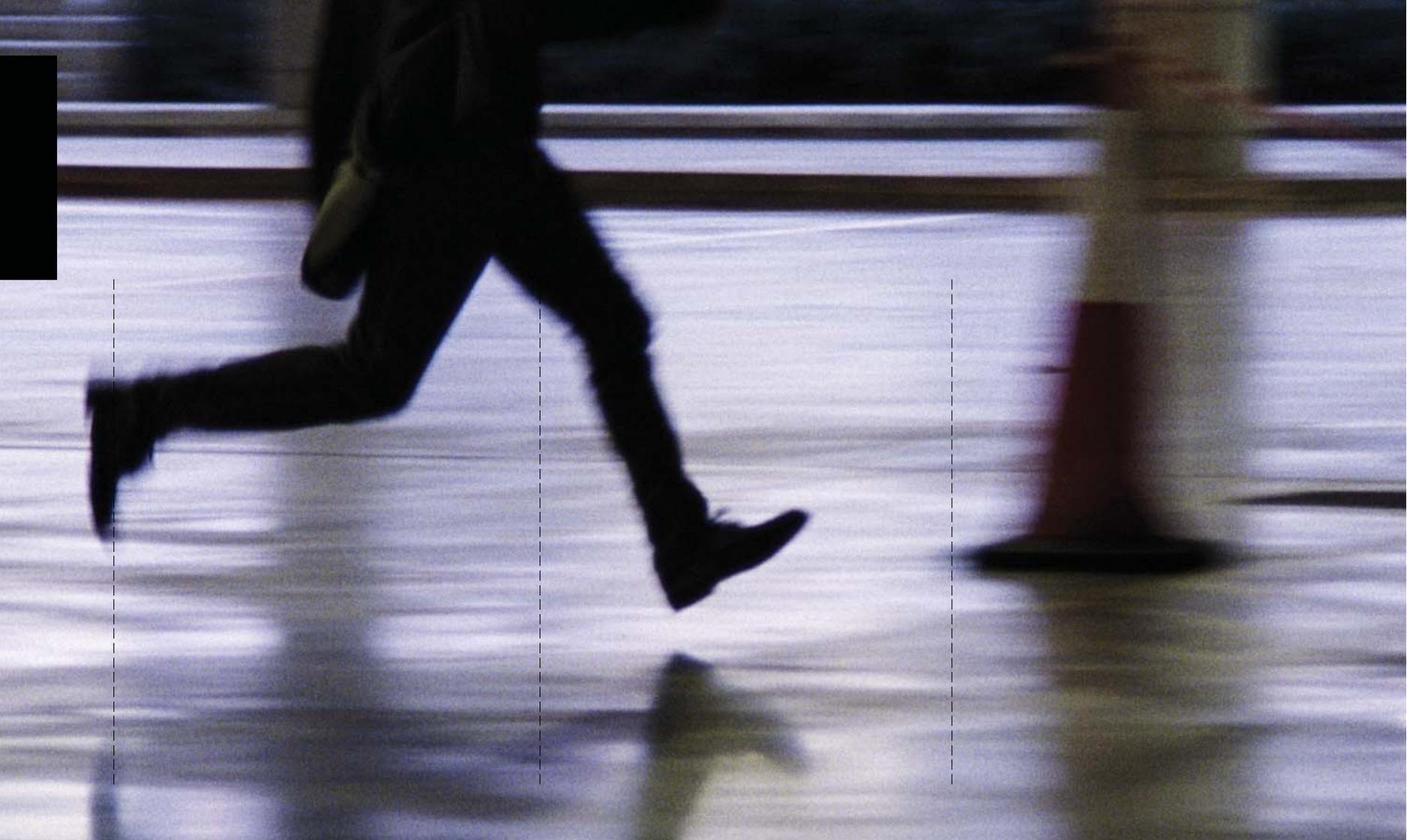
He is the Artistic Director of the KYPRIA

International Festival since 2013. He has designed the sets and/or the costumes for more than 120 productions in Theatre, Opera, Ballet, Cinema and TV. He worked with distinguished directors and choreographers such as Vladimirov Kafkarides, Valery Akhatov, Evis Gavrielides, Jean-Claude Berutti, Michael Leinert, etc.

In 2001 was awarded for best stage design (THOC Theatre Awards) and in 2009 for best art direction (5th Festival of Short Films and Documentaries).

#### **PERSEFONI MILIOU**

Persefoni Miliou lives and works in Athens. She currently works as a sound designer and documentary director. She was the sound designer on the films "The eternal return of Antonis Paraskevas," "Norway," "Washingtonia" and others.



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